



THE RARA RAG

Newsletter of The Rochester Amateur Radio Association, Inc.

Founded in 1931

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2023 RARA ANNUAL AUCTION - IN PERSON ONLY

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT

The RARA Annual Auction is coming Wednesday, November 1st so it is really time to dust off the equipment you no longer love or get ready to find a new treasure! The entire November meeting will be dedicated to the auction; in fact, we'll be opening the doors early at 6:15PM to let sellers bring in the treasures they're hoping to go home without. At 6:30, members not selling can begin perusing the items to see them up close before they hit the auction block starting at 7:00. **If you are not selling any items, please don't arrive before 6:30,** sellers need time and space to get things ready.

We will be providing stickers that you can use as you browse items. Place a sticker on an item if you are interested in it. We will be using the stickers to adjust the order of auctioned items to move things along a little faster and make things more interesting.

Our auctioneer will be Ed Gable, K2MP, who is sure to provide us with an entertaining evening. We are also looking for pickers and runners who can help to make the auction run smoothly. If you would like to give it a try, please email me at vicepresident@rochesterham.org.

The auction is a members-only event, so please renew your membership online if you haven't already. Our membership secretary, (me!), will be at the entrance checking membership and helping members renew if they were unable to do so in advance.

Please bring up to three items you have that are radio related and that you feel may be of interest to a fellow ham. Each item should be clearly labeled with three im-

portant pieces of information: (1) Your name & call; (2) A description (is it working?); and (3) Your desired starting price. Attached to the last page of the Rag is a form you can use (which is also available on the club's website).

A good suggestion that Ed Gable always reminds us, if the item you hope to sell is battery operated then put a battery in it so people can see it work! (This may be a good time to replace the batteries in your smoke detectors and recycle the old ones into the items you are selling).



Please join in the fun! Even if you have nothing to sell! This is a great event and a nice way to spend an evening. Wednesday November 1st - doors open at 6:15PM for sellers, 6:30 to review, 7:00 start. We will be trying to wrap up around 10:00pm. Meeting at the BSA, 2320 Brighton-Henrietta Townline Road, Brighton, NY 14623. Dual online/in-person meetings will return in December. As is usual for our auction night, there will be no coffee & donuts service this month, and please remember that only water can be brought into the auction room.



BOARDZ BUZZ

Rich Bishopp KD2UBJ

Well here it is, my turn again at the keyboard to bring you this months board buzz. There are so many ideas and directions this could go but I thought maybe I would just share what is on my mind today and that would be Public Service.

Suzanne (W2SUZ) and I really enjoy Public Service events. We always look forward to the bike rides, to provide SAG or Sweep services to the riders. We always have lots of fun helping the riders with equipment like fixing a flat or giving a ride back to the start/finish for those who just run out of gas.

While I write this our next event is the scouts challenge trophy camporee, Saturday October 21st this year at Camp Cutler. The club helped at this event last year too and we had a blast. The scouts move by patrol, from station to station either participating in team events, demonstrating skills learned though scouting or learning something new like radio. A great way to promote the radio hobby is targeting like minded youth who like to camp and hike like we do.

I'm certain everyone by now knows how much Suzanne and I enjoy participating in the Parks On The Air program. Again this year the Scouts Camporee and the POTA Support Your Parks Weekend fall on the same dates. The club's time with the scouts is on Saturday and is just a few hours to give to a good cause. Public Service is more important than that park. You may have heard us in a park later that day or on Sunday.

The Halloween Pumpkin Patrol follows the camporee and we enjoy helping with that too. Yes sitting in one spot and watching a stationary object (the bridge) for hours can really get your heart racing. We have set up our HF radio and made a few contacts between check in times and also made contacts on vhf simplex with people in the area who would get on the air to keep us company. Currently (October 10th) there is still a need for a little help with Pumpkin Patrol. I hope someone was able to jump in and help out. Ed Wilkonski (K1EM) does a remarkable job getting every bridge assigned to a ham and facilitates the communications plan. Ed even drives around to each bridge to make sure everyone is safe and not getting too excited watching their bridge.

Please consider taking some time to help our club with one or more of the Public Service events. Mike Moore (KC2NM) handles quite a bit of the organization on his own and I'm certain he would welcome some help.

One more place you can help is with education, another big point of our mission statement. The club still needs an academy coordinator. A coordinator is not the one who presents the academy so don't see this as a daunting task. Please consider helping here. Karl Heinz Kremer (K5KHK), our education coordinator, I'm sure would be happy to answer questions you may have and give you some suggestions on getting started without biting off more than you chew.

I believe I covered each point of our clubs mission but how do I bring it closer to home? I would really like to get my grandson on the air. I have obstacles like distance and video games. He is active in scouting so maybe they will have a Jamboree On The Air event too. I could cover the cost of a class and club membership. I could even give him a radio but not until he has that tech license. How do you promote our club and the hobby and encourage new members to get into this fast pace exciting hobby ?

The Rochester Amateur Radio Association is a non-profit educational organization of amateur radio enthusiasts.

The core mission of the Rochester Amateur Radio Association is to:

Provide value to the community, (FCC Part 97.1.a) "focuses services as a voluntary noncommercial communications service, particularly with respect to providing emergency communications."

Promote scientific education and knowledge of radio engineering and communication skills by facilitating the exchange of information, improving individual operating efficiency and strengthening the welfare of amateur radio in the community.

Encourage camaraderie by providing a forum for members to meet and exchange information, share experiences, and socialize with one another.

The Rochester Amateur Radio Association assures success by having an organization with a focus on its goals, a system of leadership development, prudent financial management and a vision toward and dedication to Public Service. It supports an organized and comprehensive educational program and publicizes its activities and services to the community.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

WEDNESDAY NOV 1, 2023 - RARA Meeting In Person Only
7:00 PM - Annual Auction

THURSDAY NOV 2, 2023 - RARA Board of Directors Meeting
6:30 PM - ONLINE
Email request for link to secretary@rochesterham.org

RARA MEMBERSHIP NEWS

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, RARA VICE PRESIDENT AND MEMBERSHIP SEC-

As I mentioned in my last column, we had just reached a total of 600 members. At the end of our membership year the total number of members was 603. That is our highest membership for many years and a tribute to all those who help to make this such a vibrant and fun club. I will be reporting that number to the ARRL shortly so that we can stay as one of the largest ARRL affiliated clubs.

However, if you read this column regularly you will know that membership lapsed on September 30th and our membership level has dropped to about half that number, Now is the time to renew if you are not a life member! Thanks to all who have already done so.

To our current members, If your membership has lapsed, please renew your membership!

You can join or renew your membership [here](#).

There are many membership benefits, here are just some of them:

- Only members can attend the RARA Annual Auction
- Free admission to the RARA Hamfest
- Access to license classes and discounts for license manuals
- Annual events such as the Picnic and Winterfest
- Membership points for contributing to club events
- Supporting an Organization that you value!

Being a member is also important, as your dues and a healthy membership count contribute to many RARA activities such as Rag subscription, monthly meetings, RARA Academy sessions Elmer's Corner, [groups.io](#) mailing list, Facebook page, etc. Attracting good speakers is greatly helped when we can point to the size of our club, one of the largest ARRL affiliated clubs by the way.



I was away until the middle of October so I have a backlog to process (all renewals are actually a manual process) but I plan to be up to date by the time the Rag is published so if you have not received confirmation of your renewal, let me know.

One important point I would like to remind you of. The software package we use to manage membership is very old and quite cranky. One of its odd features is that it stores the access code you use to get your information from our website in plain text. That means the support team (currently two of us) can see the code so don't use your secret password or confidential information.

I'd also like to give a warm welcome to the following new members who joined the club in the past month:

Jorge Max Perera
Ryan Oakes, KD2ZPS
Carl Utrata, KT8M

If you see any of our new members at a RARA meeting or event make sure to introduce yourself and welcome them to the club!

Silent Key

Eugene B. Fuller
W2LU
October 6, 2023

2023 RARA BANQUET

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM, SECRETARY

The Rochester Amateur Radio Association held its annual banquet on September 22, 2023, at Proietti's Italian Restaurant in Webster Plaza, NY. The banquet was last held in 2019 and returned this year. We were served a delicious Italian Buffet. The event was attended by 40 members and guests of the club, and it was a great opportunity for everyone to socialize and share their experiences in the hobby.

The after-dinner program was presented by Tim Brown WB2PAY and George Adams K4GWA. They offered their perspectives on amateur radio from the standpoint of a seasoned ham (WB2PAY) and a new ham (K4GWA).

George Adams K4GWA was awarded the Club Service Award for his contributions to the club. He has been involved in public service events such as, bike rides, The Lift Bridge Regatta, Pumpkin Patrol, Makerfaire, Volunteer Examiner, AUXCOMM, President of ARES, and he loves building and operating portable amateur radio stations.

Tim Brown WB2PAY has an impressive background in amateur radio. He started his journey at Bishop Timon High School in 1962 and later served in the Army with postings at Fort Devens, Mass. Morse Intercept Training, the country of Panama, Santa Rosa, Calif., and Shemya Alaska. He has worked at Sylvania, RCA, and Kodak. Tim served many years as the RARA education coordinator and has helped many hams build their radio skills. Tim believes, "You never know how your efforts will have a positive impact on an individual".

Overall, the banquet was a great success and provided an opportunity for members to connect with each other and share their passion for amateur radio.





EDUCATION

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, Education Coordinator

RARA LICENSE COURSES

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, License Class Coordinator

License Classes

Our fall license classes are well underway. We are currently running a Technician and an Amateur Extra class. If you missed your chance to sign up for either your first license or a license upgrade, we will run more classes starting in January. If you are interested, please let us know.

New General Question Pool

As I've mentioned before, since July 1st, all General license exams are now using the new question pool, which means that you need the 10th edition of the ARRL License Manual to study for the test. The 9th edition, which we've used before does not cover the new test.

License Manuals

The current editions of the Technician and General license manuals are available to our members at a discount for \$25. At this discount, we unfortunately cannot deliver, and you would have to pick up the manual. If you are interested, please send an email to education@rochesterham.org

The Amateur Extra license manual will expire at the end of June 2024, because of that, we do not want to keep any stock that we might not be able to sell, but we can order a book for you for the same price as our other license manuals.

I usually have some license manuals with me at official RARA events (e.g. the monthly meetings)

RARA ACADEMY

For Saturday November 11, we are planning a RARA Academy session about circuit simulation with LTSpice. This will be on Zoom, starting at 10am and running for about two hours. Please see the separate article in this Rag for more information. If you are interested in learning the basics of how to simulate an electronic circuit with a free tool, this class will be for you, please register with us by sending an email to education@rochesterham.org. We will send out information about how to join the Zoom session and what software to download and install on your computer the week before the class starts.

If you have anything you would like to teach in a RARA Academy, please let us know. Even if it's something shorter, we can combine your topic with something else to fill the two hour time slot that we usually aim for.

We are still looking for input in what our next Academy session should cover. To make it easy for our members to provide such input, we created an online survey. Please go to <http://tiny.cc/RaRaAcademySurvey2022> and fill out the survey. If this short link should not work, you can also use this link: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfe_RvJyAfc2BidWxePLvK1r_CjQosS1PV0Ua6m2zETiyPa-w/viewform

And we are again looking for a volunteer to organize our RARA Academy sessions. This is a position for which you don't have to be an expert in anything as long as you are good at organizing things, and you will get a front row seat for all Academy presentations. If you are interested in joining our education team, please let us know.

RARA ELMERS' CORNER

Suzanne Bishopp, W2SUZ

Rich Bishopp, KD2UBJ

Elmers' Corner Coordinators

A huge thank you to Don Wegeng, KD2WWY, for hosting the October Elmers' Corner while Rich and I enjoyed a beautiful, although wet, weekend in the Adirondacks. I am watching the video as I write this article, and they started the meeting with my favorite topic – POTA. They also talked about the magic carpet, and if you don't know what that is...it's part of an antenna set up, so yes, they snuck another antenna topic in. But as my favorite Elmer says, the most important part of playing radio is your antenna

If you would like to see a recording of the last meeting, please send me an email and I will hook you up with the link.

We will be back in November, so please join us to talk radio. Any topic is welcome, and question we will try to answer. I love the tips and tricks that our fellow hams bring to this monthly chat. I always learn something new.

If you have any questions that you would like us to be prepared to answer, please email them to us at elmerscorner@rochesterham.org, and we will make sure that we are prepared for our Zoom meeting.

As always, bring your coffee, tea or other favorite morning beverage and join us for our Zoom meeting, the first Saturday of the month at 10AM.

Can't wait to see you there.

ELMERS' CORNER

1st Saturday of the month
September – May

Next Zoom Meeting:

November 4th 10AM-12PM
December 2nd 10AM-12PM

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09)
[pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83484674667?pwd=MG5DZXd6SFovN3lXa0NNTzM5UnBLUT09)

Meeting ID: 834 8467 4667
Passcode: 786545

One tap mobile

+16465588656,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (New York)
+13126266799,,83484674667#,,,,*786545# US (Chicago)

Dial by your location

+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)
+1 312 626 6799 US (Chicago)
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)
+1 253 215 8782 US (Tacoma)
+1 346 248 7799 US (Houston)
+1 669 900 9128 US (San Jose)

Find your local number: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/kiOoVkCMY>

Suzanne – W2SUZ
Rich – KD2UBJ

MORSE CODE TRAINING

Dave Wilson, WA2HOY, RXCWG Coordinator

The RXCW Group assists Hams wanting to learn Morse Code or to develop their CW skills.

BEGINNERS MORSE CODE ZOOM CLASSES

Peter Fournia, W2SKY, hosts Morse Code classes on Thursday evenings 7pm.

No experience required. Join the group at any session. Register at:

pfournia@gmail.com

MORSE PRACTICE FOR ALL LEVELS ON ZOOM AND ON THE AIR

Tim Brown, WB2PAY, hosts Zoom code practice for all levels on Thursday evenings at 7:30pm. For On Air schedules contact Tim at tjbrown@rochester.rr.com

RXCWG INTERMEDIATE CW PRACTICE- 7:30pm Thursdays

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79966212852?](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79966212852?pwd=M0M1MlBmVTJkVVl0RjRLYXljc3pOUT09)
[pwd=M0M1MlBmVTJkVVl0RjRLYXljc3pOUT09](https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79966212852?pwd=M0M1MlBmVTJkVVl0RjRLYXljc3pOUT09)

Meeting ID: 799 6621 2852

Passcode: tpjz8e

W1AW On The Air CW Practice

<http://www.arrl.org/w1aw-operating-schedule>

Time	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri
9 AM		Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
4 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast
7 PM	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow
10 PM	Fast	Slow	Fast	Slow	Fast

SLOW - 5, 7 1/2, 10, 13 and 15 wpm

FAST - 35, 30, 25, 20, 15, 13 and 10 wpm

FREQ(MHz) - 1.8025, 3.5815, 7.0475, 14.0475, 18.0975, 21.0675, 28.0675, 50.350, 147.555

RADIO ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Dave Carlson	N2OA	Batavia	kdcarlso@gmail.com
Lawrence Hill	N2AJX	Henrietta	lawrence.hill@rit.edu
Rich Hoffarth	K2AXP		rhoffarth2000@yahoo.com
Bill Kasperkoski	WB2SXY	Pittsford	wb2sxy@gmail.com
Don Kiser	AC2EV	N Greece	dkiser100@gmail.com
Karl Heinz Kremer	K5KHK	Chili	k5khk@khk.net
Tim Magee	WB2KAO	Greece	585-704-5747
Mike Moore	KC2NM		mikemoore@ieee.org
Peter Schuch	WB2UAQ	Perinton	pschuch@rochester.rr.com
Forest Shick	WA2MZG	Webster	fshick3@gmail.com
Dave Timmons	W2DST	N Greece	dstimmons@gmail.com
Steve Verzulli	KA1CNF		verzulli@yahoo.com
Dan Waterstraat	W2DEW	Henrietta	higreen@rochester.rr.com

CW ELMERS

Name	Call	Area	Email
Ned Asam	W2NED	Pittsford	w2ned@frontiernet.net
Tim Brown	WB2PAY	Ogden	tjbrown@rochester.rr.com
Pete Fournia	W2SKY	Penfield	pfournia@gmail.com
Bill Hopkins	AA2YV	Brighton	whopkin4@naz.edu
Bob Karz	K2OID	Webster	rkarz@rochester.rr.com
Joe Rowe	AG2Y	Webster	ag2y@rochester.rr.com
Harry Williams	KF2TV	Kingsland, GA	harryw7872@gmail.com

2023 AUCTION INFORMATION

BRIAN O'CONNOR, KA2CGB

The Annual RARA Auction will start at 7:00PM on Wednesday, November 1st.
Schedule of events:

- 5:45PM – Volunteers set-up room for the auction.
- 6:15PM – Doors open for Members to stage items for sale.
- 6:30PM – Buyers are invited to inspect the auction items.
- 7:00PM – Brief presentation prior to start of auction.

Note: RARA will NOT be offering refreshments at this meeting. Only bottled water is permitted in the meeting room.

Sellers

Bring a *Radio, Antenna, Tuner, Tool, Test Instrument or Accessory* that another ham can put to good use. Take the time to wipe it down and test it. *Leave the junk box at home*. Only ham radio related items, please.

Because space is limited, please limit yourself to *2 or 3 items for sale*.

Please complete the *Auction Item Description* form in advance. Find form on the last page of this issue of the “Rag” or download the PDF form from <https://www.rochesterham.org>.

Note that once an item is placed for inspection it cannot be removed from the auction for a private same-day sale.

The Seller's Premium (commission) is 10% of sale amount, rounded to the nearest dollar; minimum commission per item is \$1.

Carry In, Carry Out: *If your item doesn't sell then you must take it home*.

Buyers

Each item auctioned is a private sale between the individual parties. RARA equipment is sold on an “as-is, where-is” basis.

Cash sales only. All sales are final. The cashier will settle all transactions in whole dollars.

Members Only

Everyone needs to check in at the Membership desk. To avoid delays on auction night, just Sign Up or Renew your membership on-line at:

https://www.rochesterham.org/membership_data.aspx

At check-in, each Member will be given some *Item Interest Tokens* (stickers). If you are interested in a particular item, then attach one (or more) of your tokens to the *Item Description Form* before the auction begins. Those items with more tokens may be brought up for auction sooner than later.



Hazmat

Some Ham stuff can be hazardous. We need to protect the facility as well as everyone handling the items. So, don't bring anything that is leaking or will leave a stain. Any item containing potentially hazardous materials such as mercury (older rectifier tubes), PCBs (older capacitors), beryllium (high power tubes) or lead (solder, lead-acid batteries) must not contaminate the facility. Potential hazmat items must be packaged in a clear zip-lock bag or in a plastic bucket, tote or similar container.

Do not bring anything with mold on external or internal surfaces. Mold is a fungus. Mold creates long-lasting spores that can be dangerous when inhaled or ingested. If it smells musty, leave it home.

Finally...

Come and have fun!

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NOVEMBER 2023 PUBLIC SERVICE UPDATE

MIKE MOORE, KC2NM, PUBLIC SERVICE COORDINATOR

Fairport Liftbridge Regatta Results

RARA provided event communications for the Fairport Liftbridge Regatta on Saturday September 23. The organizer for this event is the [Fairport Crew Club](#) and the regatta featured 23 separate race events with a total of 87 crews. The Fairport Crew Club provides opportunities for youth grades 6-12 to learn to row and be part of a competitive rowing team. FCC also offers Summer Youth and Adult rowing opportunities.

The Liftbridge Regatta is held on the canal in Perinton and the course map is shown to the right. Rowers enter the canal at the FCC boathouse located near the Rt. 31F bridge. The boats then row to the start line near the 490 canal crossing in Busnell's Basin. From the start line, the race course follows the canal north to the finish line located at the Rt. 31F bridge. Hams are located at the start and finish lines, on the water in a boat, and at the safety monitor posts along the course. The race command post (Net Control) was located at the picnic pavilion of Perinton Park. Race conditions are reported, and logged by net control using a directed net. Other communications jobs include shadowing race officials, advising recreational boats to stay to one side of the course, and monitoring the position of the Colonial Belle excursion boat. Thank you communications team members including Joe AD2DB, Nicholas AF2M, George K4GWA, William KC2BEN, Jim KC2KNJ, Shawn KC2KYB, Mike KC2NM, Mark KC2UES, Dawn KC2VJU, Paul KD2DO, CJ KE2BMS, Cindy, Robert W2RJS, Peter W2SKY, and Paul WA2WPI. Cindy Manuele served as Net Control Scribe. Special thanks to Mark Pedersen, KC2UES for his excellent work as team captain, Nick - AF2M net control.



Rowing Shell in the Event

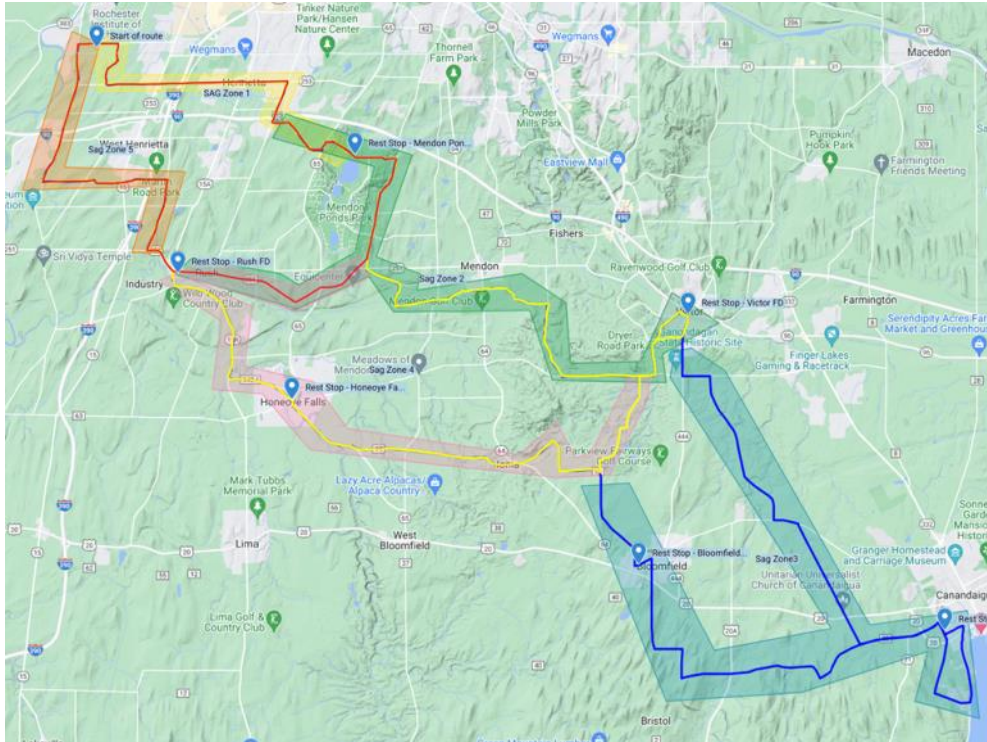


Nick AF2M at Net Control



Wilmot Breakaway Bike Ride Results

The inaugural event for the Wilmot Breakaway Ride was held on Saturday September 30 as a fundraiser for the URMW Wilmot Cancer Center. There were 3 ride courses of 75, 50, and 27 miles in length. The start and finish lines were located at the University of Rochester Central Labs on Bailey Rd. in West Henrietta and the ride course extended to the southeast toward Canandaigua with turn back routes for the shorter courses.



RARA teamed with a large group from the RIT Amateur Radio club, operated the command center, fielded SAG and Sweep teams, and kept the organizers in the loop for problems and ride progress. There were 196 riders and the event organizers expect that the event will grow in years to come. Amateur Radio operations were conducted on the K2GXT RIT repeater 442.055, WR2AHL Bristol Mountain repeater 444.55, and WR2AHL Canadice repeater 444.95. The repeaters were linked to each other and to the command center using the AllStar network. The event featured Ford F150 trucks donated by Van Bortel Ford for some SAG Trucks. In many cases, they were staffed by non-hams. To facilitate communication with non-ham SAG drivers and rest stop captains we were offered the use of P25 trunked event radios from Monroe County. These worked well to handle calls between non-ham equipped resources.



Jim, W2COP with the RIT ARC Group

The weather was perfect for this type of event and the day started with breakfast at the start line, sub sandwiches at rest stop 4, and an after event meal served by Dinosaur BBQ.

Thank you all for making this event a success! Team members were: Joe-AD2DB, Mike-K2MTV, Aidan-K5DOC, Karl Heinz-K5KHK, Michael-KC1QCI, Mike-KC2NM, Violet-KC3WIP, Bill-KD2DNO, Douglas-KD2LGE, Rich-KD2UBJ, Alex-KD2UJC, CJ-K2BMS, Matthew Thompson, Remy-W1RMI, James-W2COP, Susan-W2SBA, Peter-W2SKY, and Suzanne-W2SUZ



Start Line for the 50 mile Ride

Remaining events in the public service calendar are listed in the following table. Visit https://rochesterham.org/public_service.htm for more information and to volunteer.

Event	Location	Day	Date
Finger Lakes Tour de Cure	Xerox Campus Webster	Saturday	June 8, 2024
MS Roc the Ride Great Lakes Adventure	Lakeside Beach State Park	Saturday	August 12, 2024
ILLW	Charlotte-Genesee Lighthouse	Saturday and Sunday	August 17-18, 2024

RARA OCTOBER MEETING REVIEW

SUSAN AIELLO, W2SBA

Thanks to everyone who joined us in person and online for our Parks on the Air POTA presentation! POTA lovers Suzanne Bishopp W2SUZ, Karl Heinz Kremer K5KHK and I presented an overview of the POTA program, general guidelines for hunting and activating parks or entities, a review of what equipment is needed (a radio, antenna and power) and some of the ins and outs that we have learned over the years.

If you'd like to learn more about the amateur radio activity that (in our opinion) "saved" Ham Radio and made CW worth considering again, please visit the POTA website, <https://pota.app>, and also check out the POTA manual which will give a comprehensive review of the program and answer most of the questions you may have (<https://docs.pota.app>).



RArA ACADEMY - CIRCUIT SIMULATION WITH LTSPICE

Karl Heinz Kremer, K5KHK, Education Coordinator

Good news! After our series of presentations about antenna simulation with 4NEC2, we can offer a session about circuit simulation with LTSpice.

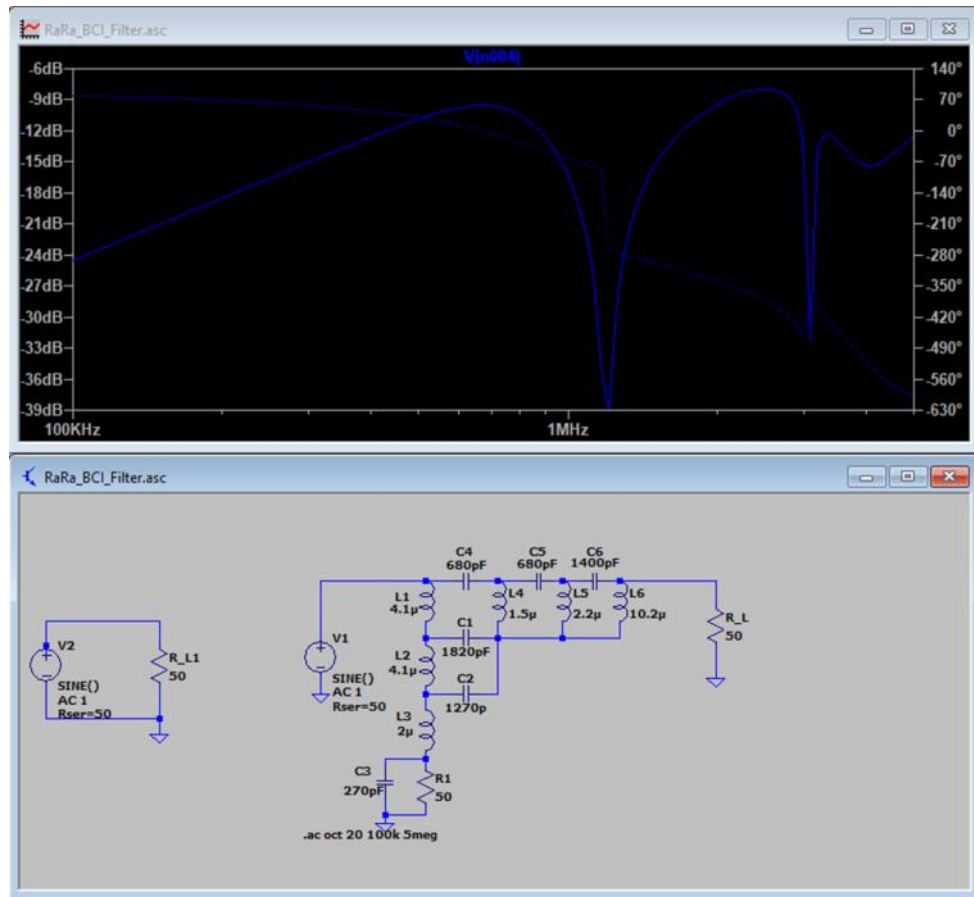
LTSpice is an application that runs on Windows and Mac, and the Windows version can also run under Wine on Linux. The software can be downloaded for free

from Analog Devices (<https://www.analog.com/en/design-center/design-tools-and-calculators/ltspice-simulator.html>).

During the session, we will cover the basics of using LTSpice and will then move to simulate an LC filter, and a simple amplifier, and will then finally look at how to simulate an oscillator.

The exact schematics we will cover may change as we get closer to the time of the event.

If you are interested in attending, please register with education@rochesterham.org to receive the Zoom link. Please also install the software before the Zoom meeting. The session will be recorded and we will make the recording available after the event.



We are planning a virtual session using our Zoom account on Saturday November 11th at 10am. The session will last for about two hours.

Circuit simulation allows you to figure out if a circuit is doing what it is supposed to do without killing any devices on the breadboard. We can determine the operating point voltage, run an AC frequency sweep, or look at the behavior over time of a circuit, all without putting any real world devices in danger.

A STUPID SIMPLE FIX

SCOTT THEIS, W2LW

The Triplet 8035 is an early generation digital readout Volt Ohm Meter (VOM). Before we start, for those less experienced (and those experienced), always use caution for any device connected to the 110v mains. This device has two small areas where this danger exists. As you read the article, see if you can locate them.

I had the good fortune to move from student to teacher for the electronics portion of a 9th grade shop class. I also repaired a few devices such as video tape recorders for the school. This was great fun and a wonderful experience. As a reward I was given three worn and defective Triplet 8035 meters by the shop teacher. As it turned out, one of the three simply had a blown protection fuse. The other two sat around and got lost after several moves throughout my life.

In 1975, being just a kid, it was cool to have a digital meter.

The 8035 turned out to be a great bench meter and it served me for many years. When I moved to Rochester in 2006, I built a new work bench and had the spot reserved for the 8035. However, shortly thereafter it failed. I had a few bucks and purchased a new, much fancier, BK Precision 5491B DVM and set the Triplet aside.

A few years ago, my wife had purchased a nice spectrum analyzer for my birthday (not sure how she figured out what to buy, but it is pretty cool). So, I thought why clean off the old bench? Just make a new one for digital and RF and leave the old bench for antique stuff. I purchased a few more toys to get started.



So, as I began working on the new bench, I quickly got the itch to actually do something. By the way, in the center is the spectrum analyzer and, on the right, you can see my new DVM (more on that in another article).

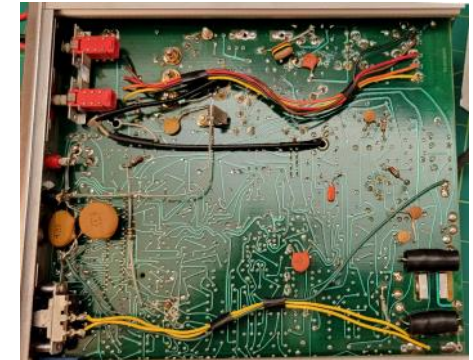
As I played with the new DVM I thought "whatever happened to that old Triplet".

And, in another room under a bunch of junk, there it was – a bit dusty with the case partly removed.

Taking a Look

I could not remember what exactly caused the failure. I know I looked at it because the screws were off the back (and, of course, lost). I think I was annoyed because I was in the middle of building something and the trusted tool gave up the ghost. So, I treated the unit as something a customer or friend might have given me to fix — with the problem listed as "it doesn't work" (as a software developer, my favorite as a bug report: "it crashed").

I pulled the cover off and started carefully inspecting the unit. One thing I noticed was some messy solder joints in the front of the device as seen on the left side in the right picture (next to the large ceramic disc capacitors).

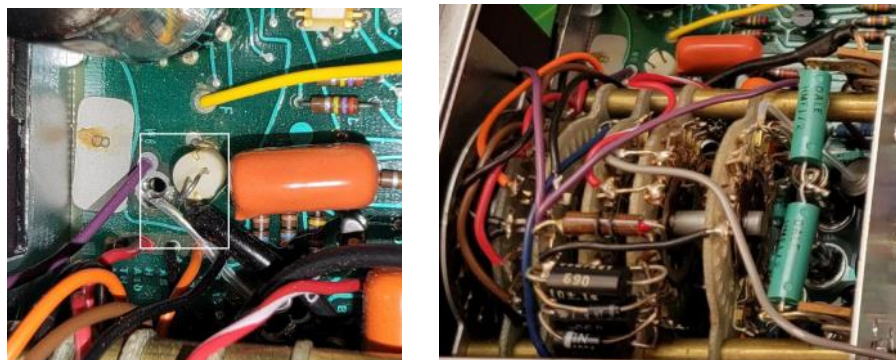


After a visual inspection, power-up yielded bouncing display digits. To me, this indicates that at that the display drivers, the counter and the voltage-controlled oscillator / integrator (now referred to as an ADC converter) was working fine. Changing the mode from voltage to resistance further supported that conclusion because the ohm measurement went to infinity. Pressing the mode buttons, "AC" to "DC/Ω", also caused digit bouncing.

At the time of the original failure, I looked for a schematic on the fledgling internet and found nothing. After reopening the device, I felt I was in need of some sort of information, otherwise it was going to be an uphill battle. Luckily, the 2023 version of the internet yielded a very crusty, 10th-gen Xerox copy and scan, service manual. Better than nothing.

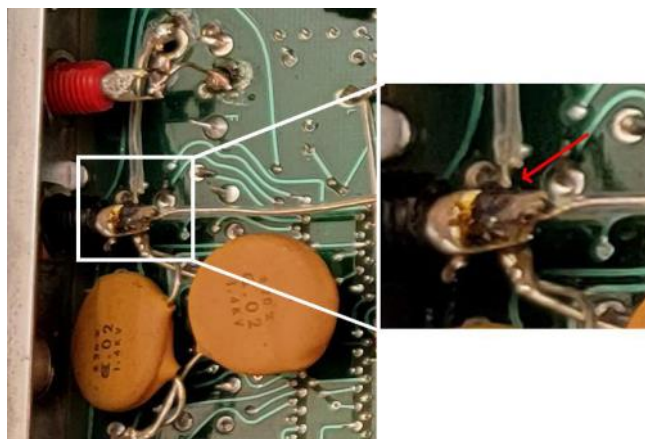
Back to simple checks: contact cleaner did not do anything. So I started to trace the route and connections for the red(+) incoming lead and immediately noticed it did not match the internet schematic. I also noticed that grabbing the lead would cause fluctuations in the readings. A good indication that it has at least a tenuous connection.

On the component side, I checked the fuse (yes, I was 15 years old and replaced the fuse with a length of wire). Below you can see that section highlighted with the covered device going to the selector switch and the returning covered wire going to the black or (-). Pulling that mess apart was not going to be fun.

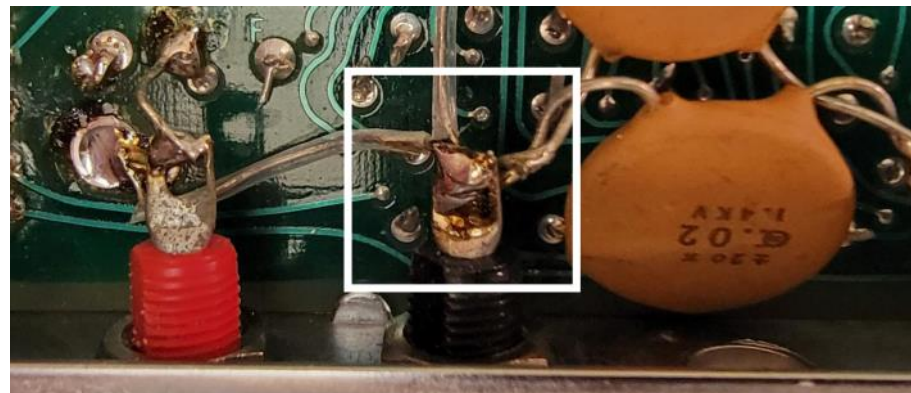


This was fast looking like a challenge.

So, then I thought "let's look at the common black (-) line". One quick look and voila — a broken wire!



Suddenly, everything started to work! Remember the mention of crappy solder joints, yeah there they are!



(I probably should spend the 15 minutes to clean everything up!)

Now perhaps a little problem. As part of the contact cleaning process, I had performed the "technician whack" on pots and also tweaked a few them. Are we still reasonably calibrated? On quick comparison with the new calibrated meter, and, well, maybe not so calibrated. Off by about 1%.

It was hard to tell whether I introduced the error or it had always been that way. The unit did not completely zero with the input shorted and readings were off a little more than I wanted. The service manual provided the calibration procedure, and I also used my new Siglent meter as a reference. Interestingly, I missed cleaning the 'balance' pot hidden behind the shield next to the selector. It is terribly bouncy and once touched needed cleaning and a couple turns back and forth to get it to settle down.

After that, 13.80vdc set on the power supply, 13.78vdc on the Triplet. I also compared some resistors. Those measure within reason as well. AC test result was similar to DC measurements. Good enough for measuring antique stuff.



Note the case is still off, which allows light to show through. The camera catches a lot of excess light. The digits are clearer in person.

A new, a presumably recently lab calibrated meter, gives the following as directly connected to the Triplet terminals:



So, not bad, the Triplet is supposed to be $\pm 0.01\%$.

Just on a lark, my cheesy Radio Shack troubleshooting tool kit meter measures 13.76vdc:



Conclusion

One thing I always wondered about was the difference between common black (-), electrical ground and A/C ground. In typical "old school" fashion it is floated between the two aforementioned .02 μ f 1.4kv ceramic caps then to the case, which is then connected to the three prong plus ground. As always, I think I will use caution measuring on anything with a hot chassis.

I notice the sticker with the serial number says the model is a type 1, but the front panel say type 2. With the poor solder joints, this is strong indication two units were cannibalized to make one.

Finally, I am not sure of the age of this unit. Probably in the 50-year range. I could not find a copyright date on the manual or any history the Triplet 8035 or any similar unit. The VFD tubes were apparently introduced in the early 1970s, so it is a good bet the unit was relatively new when I acquired it.

But it is cool, and it still works. And the display is still nice and bright.

May all your fixes be stupid easy!

If you need
a high quality **3½-digit**
V-O-M at your price . . .
buy **Triplet's** new **8035**



1. EASY OPERATION — Single polarized plug for test leads eliminates switching leads when changing functions.
2. LOW POWER CONSUMPTION — Less internal heating for greater stability and reliability.
3. LOW CIRCUIT LOADING — Greater measurement accuracy with 10 megohm input resistance for all AC and DC voltage ranges.

Designed for R&D, production, quality control, maintenance and classroom use, Triplet's new Model 8035 Digital V-O-M features an automatic polarity display, 100% overrange capability, out-of-range display blanking and high input resistance to make it nearly fool-proof.

With 26 ranges, the Model 8035 boasts accuracies from $\pm 0.1\%$ to $\pm 0.7\%$ of reading ± 1 digit . . . ranking it among the best on the market. Its green, polarized window and its single-plane, seven-bar, fluorescent display combine to insure bright, reflection-free readability from virtually any viewing angle.

Hardware for rack mounting is available.

See the **Model 8035**, priced at **\$385**, at your local distributor. For more information, or for a free demonstration of the convenience and accuracy of the 8035, call him or your Triplet representative. Triplet Corporation, Bluffton, Ohio 45817.

TRIPIRETT
The World's most complete line of V-O-M's
choose the one that's just right for you

For full details Dial Toll-Free 800-645-9200 for nearest Triplet Representative. New York State Call Collect 516-294-0990

. . . for more details circle 125 on Reader Service Card

2023 SIMULATED EMERGENCY TEST

EV TUPIS, W2EV

The American Radio Relay League's Simulated Emergency Test (SET) took place on October 7 - 8, 2023. It was a nationwide exercise designed to test Amateur Radio operator's personal emergency-operating skills and the readiness of their communications equipment in a simulated emergency-like deployment.

ARRL Field Organization Leaders at the section and local levels, along with many other volunteers that are active in public service and emergency communications, developed simulated emergency-like scenarios in consultation with a variety of agencies and organizations for whom radio amateurs are known to provide service during emergencies.

Since it has battery backup in place, the drill started out using the 146.01/.61 repeater for local communication. With the knowledge that in an extended utility outage those batteries would eventually drain, the repeater was "declared non-operational" and participants reverted to SIMPLEX communication using only the 146.61 MHz output frequency to test each team's ability to communicate directly, known as SIMPLEX mode.

Regional communication was performed using the 40-meter band and leveraging low antennas. This approach leveraged the NVIS approach in which signals would travel more vertically into the ionosphere where they would be scattered across the region rather than travel nationally or internationally. This allowed for communication to take place across the state and Northeast to test participants ability to pass information outside of potentially impacted areas to teams that would still be close enough to assist in times of an emergency.

Station readiness, personal training, and preparedness-practice are tenets of the Amateur Radio Service. Events like this contribute to developing and practicing our personal radio communication capability. Locally, teams were deployed across Monroe County, with the Monroe County Emergency Operations Center taking the lead; while similar operations took place in counties across the state and nation.

Assignments

Team: Cobbs Hill
Paul Conaway, KD2DO
John DiVencenzo, AD2DB
Sam Hartley, KD2TVB

Team: Rochester General Hospital
Tony Correa, KD2PTJ
George Adams, K4GWA

Team: Monroe County Sheriff's Office Zone A
Tom Wood, KD2IOB

Pete Fournia, W2SKY

Team: Monroe County Sheriff's Office Zone B
Rosario Mazzola, KC2LOC
Erin Platteter, AA2FO
Jim Stefano, W2COP

Team: Monroe County Sheriff's Office Zone C
Mike Bowen, KC2BTW
David Mitchell, KD2RAF

Team: Emergency Operations Center
Jim Herbst, KC2KNJ
Jon Dickason, N2JAC



RARA CALENDAR

TIM BARRETT, K9VB, MEMBERSHIP SECRETARY

November 2023						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
			1 RARA Annual Auction BSA ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 Walk for the Bacon Contest	2 RARA BoD Mtg 6:30pm ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NRAU 10m Activity Contest NCCC FT4 Sprint SKCC Sprint (Europe) NCCC RTTY Sprint	3 K1USN Slow Speed Test	4 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9p ARRL Sweepstakes, CW YB Banggai DX Contest IPARC Contest, CW
5 ARRL Sweepstakes, CW YB Banggai DX Contest IPARC Contest, SSB EANET Sprint High Speed Club CW Contest	6 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest ARS Spartan Sprint RSGB 80m Fall Series, Data	7 Phone Weekly Test	8 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80	9 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB EACW Meeting NCCC FT4 Sprint NCCC RTTY Sprint	10 K1USN Slow Speed Test	11 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9p WAE DX Contest, RTTY PODXS 070 Club Triple Play 10-10 Fall Contest, Digital AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 Party OK/OM DX Contest, CW J1DX Phone Contest FISTS Saturday Sprint CQ-WE Contest SKCC Weekend Sprintathon
12 WAE DX Contest, RTTY PODXS 070 Club Triple Play 10-10 Fall Contest, Digital AWA Bruce Kelley 1929 Party OK/OM DX Contest, CW J1DX Phone Contest CQ-WE Contest SKCC Weekend Sprintathon	13 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest	14 Phone Weekly Test DARC FT4 Contest	15 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 NAQCC CW Sprint Walk for the Bacon Contest RSGB Autumn 80M SSB	16 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NTC QSO Party NCCC RTTY Sprint NCCC FT4 Sprint	17 K1USN Slow Speed Test YO International PSK31 Contest	18 RARA Testing at RIT 10am ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9p ARRL Sweepstakes, SSB LZ DX Contest All Austria 160M Contest RSGB 1.8MHz Contest SARL Field Day Contest Ref 160m Contest South American Contest, CW
19 ARRL Sweepstakes, SSB LZ DX Contest RSGB 1.8MHz Contest SARL Field Day Contest Ref 160m Contest South American Contest, CW FISTS Sunday Sprint Homebrew Equipment Party	20 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest	21 Phone Weekly Test SKCC Sprint	22 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p A1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 RSGB Autumn 80M CW	23 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB RSGB 80m Autumn Series, CW NCCC RTTY Sprint NCCC FT4 Sprint	24 K1USN Slow Speed Test	25 ROC City Net 28.405 MHz, 9p ARRL EME Contest CQ WW DX Contest, CW Ham Spirit Contest, SSB
26 ARRL EME Contest CQ WW DX Contest, CW Ham Spirit Contest, SSB	27 AWA Net 145.110 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 144.260 SSB ICWC Medium Speed Test OK1WC Memorial WW Sideband Activity Contest QCX Challenge	28 Phone Weekly Test	29 ROC City Net ~3.830 MHz, 7p 1 Club AWT CWOps Test VHF/UHF FT8 Activity Contest Mini Test 40, 80 NAQCC CW Sprint UKEICC 80M Contest	30 ARES Net 146.610 MHz, 7pm VHF Group 9pm 50.205 USB NCCC RTTY Sprint NCCC FT4 Sprint		

VE TEAM

Testing takes place on the 3rd Saturday September - April

Testing Location

RIT
Rochester Institute of Technology
Building 16 -Schmitt Interfaith Center
43.08402626755475, -77.6734520379509

- Easiest path is from Parking Lot D it can be accessed from West Jefferson Rd via Andrews Memorial Dr or Lowenthal Rd
- From parking lot D walk south up the ramp to the Schmitt Interfaith Center.
- Once inside there is an elevator over to your left or stairs in front of you. Go to the first floor and you will find the Skalny room.

Please Note: this room cannot be accessed from the door under the bridge.

Pre-registration is required visit:

<https://hamstudy.org/sessions/14612/inperson> to find the latest session.

More information is available on the RARA website:

https://rochesterham.org/license_testing.htm

Applicants must supply their own pen, pencil, calculator

Testing begins at 10:00AM.

Also Note: The exam is free however the FCC now charges \$35 for applications. This fee is NOT paid to the VE team. It is paid directly to the FCC. You will receive an email from the FCC when your application is processed. We will also have an information sheet available

September VE Session Results

App Type	Existing Call	Name	Location	OpClass	Name Change	Call Change	Result	New Call
Modify	KE2AMJ	William L Mahoney	Rochester, NY	Extra	-	YES	Granted	AD2GE

NEWS FROM AREA CLUBS

MONROE COUNTY ARES / RACES News

Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES)® is an amateur radio public service organization based in Monroe County, New York, and is open to all licensed amateur radio operators. Monroe County Radio Amateur Civil Emergency Service (RACES) is a program of the Monroe County Office of Emergency Management. We participate in training and emergency exercises so that we can serve other agencies during times of communication failure.



The Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc. holds its meetings on the fourth Thursday of each month except in July, August, November and December. The meeting in November is on the third Thursday to avoid interfering with Thanksgiving. Anyone interested, members and non-members, are welcome to attend. The meetings are in person at the county EOC at 6:00 PM and are also available via Zoom. Please check our website for any schedule changes. Prospective members can request an invitation by email to: secretary@monroecountyemcomm.org.

Monroe County ARES/RACES meets on the air every Thursday of the month at 7:00 PM, on the W2ARM 146.61 MHz (-) 110.9 Hz PL and 444.45 MHz (+) 110.9 Hz PL repeaters. Our club callsign is WB2EOC. On nights when we hold our regular meeting, the net is at 5:30 PM.

Web: www.monroecountyemcomm.org

Facebook: Monroe County Amateur Radio Emergency Service, Inc.

Twitter @MCARESNY

ROCHESTER DX ASSOCIATION, RDXA

Please check our website www.rdx.com for up to-date information regarding meeting locations and requirements, if any.



XRX AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The XRX Amateur Radio Club meets the second Thursday of the month (except July and August). 7PM at the Webster Recreation Center. Zoom meeting info, when available, is sent out to our mailing list. How to subscribe and up-to-date information is always on our website at <http://xarc.us>. We have a System Fusion repeater south of the city on 145.290, and another on 444.825 west of the city that is also D-Star capable. Both are also analog capable with 110.9Hz tone. All are welcome.

AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION OF THE SOUTHERN TIER, ARAST

ARAST meets the third Thursday of every month at the Emergency Communications Center on Harris Hill in Big Flats, next to the National Soaring Museum. Our Chemung County ARES (CCARES) organization meets the first Tuesday of the month except February at the same location. Both organizations serve amateurs in Chemung, Steuben and Schuyler counties in New York and Bradford and Tioga counties in Pennsylvania. All are welcome to attend our meetings.

NOTE: Both CCARES and ARAST monthly meetings are now being held both in person and online. Check out the Upcoming Events at our website, www.arast.info, for the latest details.

Don't forget to check out our repeaters when you visit the area. N3AQ 147.36(+) and the W2ZJ 146.70(-) are the principal 2-meter repeaters. The latter can also be accessed via Echolink node 574415 with the call sign KD2QND-R. A full list of repeaters that can be heard in the Twin Tiers area surrounding Chemung County can be found at http://www.arast.info/arast_website/public/repeaters.php.

We also invite you to check out our new 6-meter net on Wednesday evenings at 9 p.m. local time on 50.200 MHz USB. The net usually lasts approximately one hour. Operators are encouraged to check in and participate in the round table discussions or simply stop by from time to time. We would welcome participation from RARA members.

COMMUNITY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, CARC

If you are interested in being a part of this forward thinking and active club, visit us at a meeting or join us on one of our weekly nets. We meet at the Hoag Library (134 S. Main St. Albion, NY) on the first Saturday of each month at 7PM. Each meeting has a brief training/refresher period with upcoming topics including: net protocol, repeater set-up/maintenance, and digital signaling. The club holds a net every Sunday evening at 8pm (winter) and 9PM (summer) - 0100 UTC Monday - on 147.585 simplex, and we host the Thursday Night Social Net, Thursday at 8:30PM on 147.285+. We'd love to hear you check-in!

DRUMLINS AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Drumlins Amateur Radio Club meets every third Wednesday of the month at 7:30 PM at the Wayne County EMO/Sheriff's Office 7376 State Hwy 31 #1000, Lyons, NY 14489. Doors open at 7 pm, meeting starts at 7:30 pm. Announcements will be made on the 146.685 repeater. The Drumlins ARC website address is <http://drumlinsarc.us/>

DIGITAL COMMUNICATIONS ASSOCIATION OF PERINTON, DCAP

DCAP members continue to experiment with leading edge digital communication modes. We were formed in 1994 to foster the development of local and regional packet radio networks using AX25 and TCP/IP. Today we have members using the club sponsored DSTAR repeater (KB2VZS on 444.8MHz), several personal and publicly accessible DSTAR hotspots, Yaesu System Fusion systems on non-club repeaters and DMR systems through repeaters and personal hotspots. DCAP members meet for breakfast at 7AM nearly every Saturday morning at Riki's Family Restaurant in the village of Fairport and everyone is welcome to join us. Talk in is on the KB2VZS analog repeater on 146.715MHz with a PL tone of 110.9Hz.

KEUKA LAKE AMATEUR RADIO ASSOCIATION, KLARA

The Keuka Lake Amateur Radio Association meeting for Nov 8, 2023 will be held at the VFW in Bath, NY. Dish to pass meal at 6pm. Bring food to share, our table service and beverage. Coffee provided. At 630 will be a brief meeting. From 7-830 The National Weather Service is doing Winter Skywarn Training.

You don't need to be a member to come. Please join us and have a nice large class for them. We do a great service for the National Weather Service and our own Counties by participating in Skywarn. Even if you have taken the class before a refresher is great!

If possible rsvp to kd2bpj@gmail.com but you can also just show up.

The more the merrier.

Thank you.
Belinda Connor, KD2BPJ
KLARA Secretary

ORLEANS COUNTY AMATEUR RADIO CLUB

The Orleans County ARC meets every 2nd Monday of the month at the Orleans County Emergency Operations Center, 14064 West County House Road, Albion, NY 14411. Doors open at 6:00PM, meeting starts at 7:30PM. Anyone with an interest in amateur radio is welcome. Program topics vary from month to month.

The club has an open two-meter net every Tuesday night at 9:00PM local time on the club repeater, WA2DQL/R (145.27 -600KHz offset, 141.3 tone). Everyone is welcome to check in.

See the club website <http://ocarc.us> or contact club Secretary Ron Craig, N5BNO for more information.

ROCHESTER VHF GROUP

You are invited to
join us on-line &
on-the-air! We're
here to help you to
use the license that
you worked so hard to get.



Check out what we do by visiting our
website at <http://RVHFG.org> to start.

Join our e-mail group by sending a message
to RVHFG+subscribe@groups.io.

Join our weekly on-the-air nets on SSB:
2 meter band - Monday 9 PM 144.260 USB
6 meter band - Thursday 9 PM 50.205 USB

No VHF SSB radio (yet) to join the nets?
Log-in to Echolink [ka2ene-L #23426](#)

We can help to answer the question, "What radio should I buy?" Here's a list of HF+++ radios, those with the HF bands and at least three VHF bands, giving you access to all sorts of VHF fun. Research each one to see which serves you best. Ask questions on our email list. We're here to help!

Yaesu FT-100D	Yaesu FT-817	Yaesu FT-818
Yaesu FT-847	Yaesu FT-857	Yaesu FT-897
Icom IC-706MKIIG	Icom IC-7000	Icom IC-7100
Icom IC-9100	Kenwood TS-2000	

Some are older models and some are newer models, but all provide access to the 6 meter, 2 meter, and 70 centimeter bands using both traditional FM and the exciting narrow-band SSB mode that supports unexpectedly long-distance (100's of km's routinely and 1,000's of km occasionally) VHF communication. These are good all-around radios no matter what club you end up affiliating with later. We hope its us.

SKENOH ISLAND AMATEUR RADIO CLUB, SIARC

The Skenoh Island Amateur Radio Club meets every second Wednesday of the month at 7:30PM at the Ontario County Safety Training Facility, 2914 County Road 48, Town of Hopewell. We have License Exam Testing every other month which begins at 6:30PM. The next meeting will be on Wednesday, November 08th. There will be VE testing in November.

SIARC is also holding a Health and Welfare NET Monday through Friday each week at 2000 hours on the SIARC 146.820 repeater (located in Canandaigua, NY), Tone 110.9. This net is to pass along general information and keep hams in touch. All hams are invited to participate.

ROCHESTER RADIO REPEATER ASSOCIATION

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association, RRRRA will be having its next general meeting on November 17th. This will also be the date of RRRRA's annual tune up clinic. Bob Shewell, N2HJD will again bring his radio test equipment to check the performance of your radio equipment. Minor adjustments can be made if you bring your documentation. Please no basket cases. This is your chance to see the equipment in action that checks and keeps the repeaters running correctly.

We were able to call a quorum and hold officer elections at our June meeting. Thanks to those members that attended either in person or via Zoom. The elected club officers are Bob Odell - N2BZX - President, Bob Shewell - N2HJD - Vice President, Jerry Powell - KC2YSY - Treasurer / Membership Chairman, and Jay Stewart - W4JPS - Secretary.

Stay tuned to our web site, WWW.K2RRRA.ORG for any current information. RRRRA also accepts donations to the club. If you are not currently a member and want to support RRRRA, you can join at our monthly meeting or on our web site using PayPal. www.k2rra.org

ANTIQUE WIRELESS ASSOCIATION MUSEUM FALL COURSES

The AWA museum is announcing their fall schedule of classes for the public. You do not have to be a member to enjoy these well received educational classes. Details are on the web site at:

<https://www.antiquewireless.org/homepage/learn-build-fix-classes/>

THE AMATEUR'S CODE

Originally written by Paul M. Segal, W9EEA (1928)

THE RADIO AMATEUR IS:

CONSIDERATE	Never knowingly operating in such a way as to lessen the pleasure of others.
LOYAL	Offering loyalty, encouragement and support to other amateurs, local club, and the American Radio Relay League, through which Amateur Radio in the United States is represented nationally and internationally.
PROGRESSIVE	With knowledge abreast of science, a well built and efficient station and operation beyond reproach.
FRIENDLY	With slow and patient operation when requested, friendly advice and counsel to the beginner, kindly assistance, co-operation and consideration for the interests of others. These are the hallmarks of the amateur spirit.
BALANCED	Radio is an avocation, never interfering with duties owed to family, job, school or community.
PATRIOTIC	With station and skill always ready for service to country and community.

RAGS OF THE PAST

Ed Gable, K2MP, RaRa Historian

20 Years Ago, November 2003

Vice President and Program Chairman Brad Armstrong W1YX, opened this issue with a huge one word intro saying "AUCTION" which has been the opening topic in every issue of the Rag for over forty years! Stating that this annual Ham Auction has been an enjoyable event would be an understatement. Brad had little research to get the details. All he needed was to remember Ed Gable K2MP. Would be the auctioneer presiding at the Henrietta Firehall at 8:00 p.m. Brad did, however, fill more room stating the Auction rules, opening times for participants and the like.

The buzz word of the day in amateur radio circles was Broadband Over Powerlines, or BPL. Many ham publications were printing how dangerous this mode was due to broadband digital signals being transmitted along with the AC power distribution line going pass your home. This is not a new system as it has been in use for many years and known as carrier-current, a system that intentionally conducts signals over electrical power lines, much at the expense of massive interference to existing amateur radio, RACES, CB and other services using RF transmissions. Such words were printed in this issue but no by-line was printed. The ARRL took an interest and formed a committee, headed by the ARRL's Chief Development officer Mary Hobart K1MMH, to assess Amateur Radio Operators' level of concern and to open a dialog with ARRL-Affiliated clubs. An effort to install such a system in small parts of our area was attempted and licensed by the FCC, but poor performance and cost were not advantageous, and nothing came of it.

"RaRa Ham Shack Photos on Line" was the heading of an article by John Rooker KC2KQT. Therein John told of a new venture to publish local ham shack photos on RaRa's website. Those wishing to have your shack photo published need only to contact him via his provided email address. Not only was the service new, but so was RaRa's domain name, www.rochesterham.org.

Another headline "Kudos to the Hurricane Watch Volunteers" was written by our own Monroe County ARES Emergency coordinator, Judy Stonehill N2KXS. She wrote to inform readers of the excellent performance during the three day Hurricane Issbell, beginning September 17, 2003, by RACES members at the request of the Rochester Red Cross. Primary operators were: KC2GXY, W2SKY, WY7Q, N2KXS and KG2M. Communication modes used included the .88 repeater, HF to Albany via a hastily installed NVIS antenna system and Echolink via the University of Rochester's K2GXT system. Judy closed her report with "Job well done." Continuing on RACES reporting was an unusual publication of Meeting Minutes from a recent RACES staff meeting provided by Chuck Blocher KC2IQV. This document went into more detail on the successful planning that went into making the RACES group so successful when the Hurricane landed.

To understand the following coded message, you will need to go to the RaRa Web-site, open the Rag archive page, open this Nov 2003, issue, and read the

top righthand column on page 5. Coded message "Bob, you're welcome, I too enjoy the life-long friendship developed from this chance meeting, and besides that, you gave me a blank check to DX Engineering to buy you a tower, rotor, yagis, 600' coax and more, who does that! Ed"

Dick Goslee (sk) K2VZC, made a fun study of who was the oldest (in age) living ham. He published: Dave Melman KA2UBJ (1908), Bill DeWitt W2DD, (1906), Arch MacInnes KA2OGG (1910), Roland Janes K2JWJ (1911) and George Cook WW2D (1916).

There were no Silent Keys in this issue. From the For Sale Ads you could buy a new hill top, 3 BR home in Bloomfield, NY, full kitchen (OK forget that stuff) Several towers, pedestal for a 28 foot dish, and more. \$224,900, Floyd WA2WVL (sk). A new commercial advertiser was Cheryl Joyce AB2NU, a Sales Agent with Nothnagle Realty, Lakeville, NY.



the RaRa Rag

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AUCTION

Annual Auction

Brad Armstrong W1YX
First, let me thank all of you who showed up to enjoy the October presentation. It was a great success and the attendance and participation of the members made the program all that much better!



This month is the Annual RaRa Auction, hosted by Ed Gable, K2MP. This knowledgeable and witty auctioneer can sell even your most unlikely items. Bring all amateur radio related things that you might wish to sell and Ed will work his magic!

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RaRa MEETING
November 7, 2003
8:00 PM
HENRIETTA FIRE HALL
3129 E. HENRIETTA RD.
AUCTION
Presented by
Ed Gable K2MP

Do you know about BPL?

You better read up on it – your frequencies are in danger...

(BROADBAND OVER POWERLINES): Also goes by a few other names and acronyms: Power Line Communications (PLC), Power Line Telecommunications (PLT), and Power Line Broadband (PLB) are terms also used. There are a number of types of PLC systems, using different approaches and architecture. All are "carrier-current" systems, a term used to describe systems that intentionally conduct signals over electrical wiring or power lines. This technology would offer one more route to broadband Internet access -- at the expense of massive interference with existing Amateur Radio Service transmissions. The Military Affiliate Radio System (MARS), shortwave, Citizens' Band and radio astronomy would also be disrupted. Although the prospect of massive interference led to rejection of BPL by governments of The Netherlands and Japan, the FCC has allowed some forms of this in the past, and is formatting approval to allow more powerful use of this technology RIGHT NOW. <http://www.arrl.org/tis/info/HTML/plc/>

Also -- is this news to you?

"PRESIDENTIAL SPECTRUM POLICY INITIATIVE": A little-known directive -- set forth in a Presidential Memorandum of June 5, 2003. The "Initiative" directs several Federal agencies and Departments to develop, by June of 2004, a comprehensive plan for allocating more of the radio spectrum to

CONTINUED PAGE THREE

RaRa Rag 1

RAGS OF THE PAST

ED GABLE, K2MP, RARA HISTORIAN

40 Years Ago, November 1983

As previously mentioned in the "Twenty Year" article, November is traditionally RaRa's Ham Auction. This year the venue was the Police and Fire Academy on Scottsville Road. In a timely manner, RaRa Board member Ron Jakubowski K2RJ, also published an article titled "How to be successful at Auction," where he offered tips such as avoid asking for a minimum bid, avoid large boxes of junk, always describe working condition, accessories and your callsign to help the auctioneer sell your item.

The Rochester Radio Repeater Association (RRRA) wrote to announce their November meeting would be their popular FM Clinic where small FM transceivers could be tuned and crystals netted on frequency.

It was this month, forty years ago, that the FCC announced the term of Amateur Licenses would increase from five to ten years. Also from the FCC, was their start of negotiations on a brand new and widely anticipated Volunteer Examiner program. No more trips to Buffalo to take an exam. Cool.

From the Rochester VHF Group, it was told that one very patient ham just took delivery of the last of nearly 200 VHF/UHF Transverters, built during the then twenty year old Transverter Project. The Groupers also reported their last monthly meeting, with Fred Cupp (sk) W2DUC, of Radionics, giving a talk on speech synthesizers, was very successful.

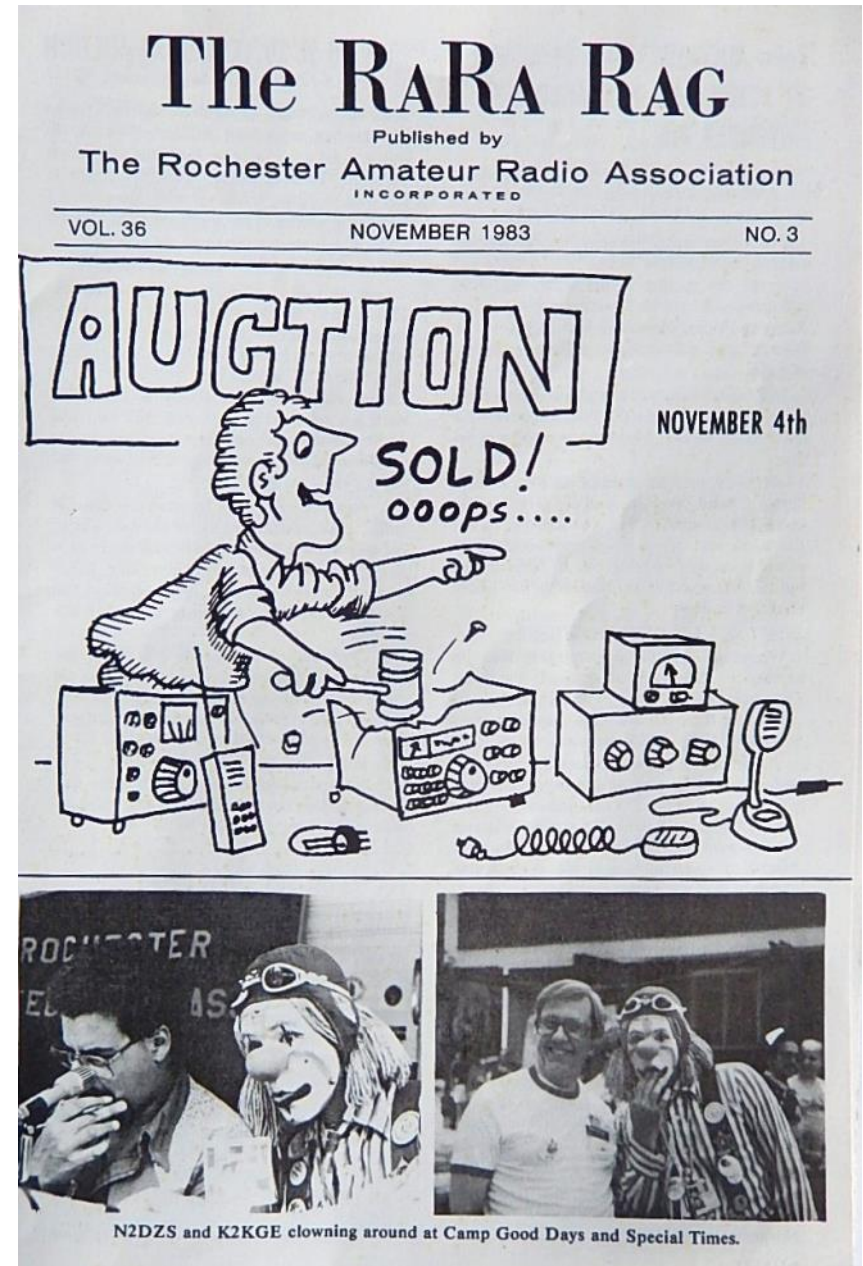
Due to personal reasons Dwight Hill K2KWK, announced his retirement as Associate Editor of the RaRa Rag. The current Editor, Ron Jakubowski K2RJ, will assume Dwight's duties until a replacement is named.

The very active Rochester VHF Group, Rochester Radio Repeater Association, Kodak Park ARC, Rochester DX Association and the Rochester Amateur Radio Association all announced their meeting date, time and place in this issue.

Writing for the Rochester-Monroe County Chapter of the American Red Cross was Dave Stark N2CSB. Dave explained how the ARC recently established Explorer Post 552 as an auxiliary to the Disaster Action Team. Dave Stark, one of three Post 552 Advisors, told of how Post members will learn of disaster communications involving Amateur Radio as well as ARC's 47.72 MHz radio System.

RaRa President Bill Theil K2KGE, in his President's Corner, wrote on the past experimental aspects of ham radio and how that is continuing today (1983). Bill was referring to the Launch of NASA's STS-9, aka SpaceLab 1. Yes, this space flight was filled experiments, but of note one crew member was Owen Garriot W5LFL, who just happened to have a 2meter FM rig on board and this was the first of many hams aboard numerous SpaceLab flights, having 2M FM QSO's with thrilled earth-bound hams.

With regret it was reported that Walter Duffy W2WSQ, was reported a silent key. From the Want Ads you could buy a Cobra 139XLR 40 Ch AM, USB, LSB CB rig from Dave KA2RDP, for \$230.00. The Heathkit Center (sk) at 937 Jefferson Road remained a long-time commercial advertiser.



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DECEMBER RAG DEADLINE

NOVEMBER 15, 2023

RARA MEETS AT 7PM ON THE FIRST WEDNESDAY OF EACH MONTH.

JOIN US IN PERSON

OR

ONLINE AT:

NOTE - THE NOVEMBER MEETING IS THE ANNUAL AUCTION AND
WILL NOT BE ONLINE

CONTACT WEBMASTER@ROCHESTERHAM.ORG FOR SUPPORT

Rochester Area Repeater Listing

THE RARA RAG

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Hotline – (585) 210- 8910

Website – <http://www.rochesterham.org>

Auction Item Description							
seller's callsign		make and model				reserve price	
description							
condition: (circle one)							
as new recently tested OK operational when retired unknown repairable for parts							
Description and condition information presented by the seller is assumed to be complete and accurate. All sales are on an as-is where-is basis. Cash settlement only. All sales are final.				buyer's callsign		sales price	
interested bidders: attach your token below							
